

Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission

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Minutes
GFHPC Meeting
City Hall A101
January 14, 2020

Commissioners present: Chuck Flemmer, Jessa Novak, Gordon Iseminger, Doug Munski, Sandy Slater, Judy Swisher, Brian Carlson, Nicole Derenne

Commissioners absent: Bill Caraher, Cory Lien

Call to order: Chuck Flemmer called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of December 10, 2019 (moved Iseminger, seconded Munski) with an amendment pertaining to attendance.

2. Section 106 Reviews

a. RRVCA - Section 106 Review

- i. 1001 N. 5th St - interior basement floors and some wall repairs. Ernie J. Norman homeless shelter built in 1990s

Motion: No Historic Properties Affected (moved Slater, seconded Swisher). **Motion carries**

- ii. 617 15th Ave S. – Extensive work including roofing, siding, gutters, doors

Motion: No Historic Properties Affected (moved Slater, seconded Munski). **Motion carries.**

- iii. 158 Columbia Ct - architectural shingles

It was noted that this home is in a potential historic area (mid-century) and that West Elementary is very close by, therefore the decision was made to change from NHPA to NAE to be cautious.

Motion: No adverse effect (moved Munski, seconded Swisher). **Motion carries.**

- iv. 724 S. 9th St – changing wood doors to steel.

Motion: No Historic Properties Affected (moved Derenne, Seconded Novak). **Motion carries.**

3. Grand Forks Municipal Airport Nomination RFPs

- a. Two proposals received for this RFP. Commissioners discussed both proposals. Motion to extend offer to Prairie Center Architecture (moved Munski, seconded Novak)

Motion carries

4. FY2020 Grant Application

- a. Potential projects for grant support

- i. Grant is due February 14. We need to decide what the projects will be next year that we would like to work on. A list of suggested projects was discussed as well as some other suggestions such as events, education and outreach. Commission Slater asked whether there is any difficulty adding Mid-Century Churches to the National Register.

Motion to pursue a trolley commemoration, C&R Cleaners and a study of the Pest House (moved Iseminger, seconded Munski)

Further discussion involved Roosevelt School as it is the only one of the period not on the National Register, and advocating/educating for preserving houses in nearby neighborhoods

Commissioner Swisher called the question regarding the motion and all in favor except Commissioner Slater who asked that we give more consideration to adding Roosevelt to the Register if there are funds available. Commissioner Munski concurred.

Commissioner Iseminger inquired as to our tax deductible/donation status and whether we can work with the Community Foundation on a fund for the trolley display.

The Coordinator will do some research with the Community Foundation and will research the proposed projects for viability, budget et c.

- b. 2020 CLG Conference

SHPO has asked if GFHPC would consider hosting the 2020 CLG Conference. The Commissioners agreed it would be a positive event and felt as though sometime in the Fall would be preferable. We will request funds in our 2020 CLG Grant Application.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Granitoid: Commissioners Flemmer, Derenne and Novak, and the coordinator met on January 8 to discuss a vision for preservation of a portion of the NR listed granitoid. Several thoughts were considered including location and priorities. Locations discussed were Kannowski Park, Lincoln Park, area of St Anne's along the Greenway, city bike path nearby LaGrave apartments and Riverside. Priority considerations discussed include telling a story, education through interpretation and research, maintenance, context and visibility/visitor volume potential. We can explore some opportunities that could be presented by current development/renovation plans. Other ideas included adding to a park or existing space to enhance gathering; asking that a cobblestone impression be used in historic neighborhoods as a nod to the use of granitoid; using it as the flooring of the transit center or seating/benches.
- b. Trolley: Commissioners Slater, Munski, Iseminger and Flemmer, and the coordinator met on January 9 to discuss a vision for presentation of a portion of trolley track. Several thoughts were considered including location and priorities. Location discussed included downtown, Transit center, UND/University Avenue, Fairgrounds, Riverside Park, Lincoln Park, DeMers Avenue and the park alongside the Chamber of Commerce. It was felt that the original building now C&R Cleaners on N. 5th Street did not attract enough pedestrian traffic. It was agreed that we ought to move forward with a plan to work with just the track and that waiting to source a trolley or similar large-scale display was not feasible. After lots of discussion it was decided that the best place for a monument is downtown and preferably near the Chamber of Commerce building where there is more pedestrian traffic and it is nearby the original trolley route. One idea posed was a granite monument that included a piece of the track, etchings of images and key information as well as an interpretive map of the old routes.

6. Chair Report – Chuck Flemmer

- a. DDRB met Dec 12th to discuss the city-maintained walkway between Sledsters and Selkirk Apartments. The discussion included JLG Architects and the contractors and involved the potential for public art and a plan for flag-themed art.
- b. Commissioner Flemmer was invited to be on a committee to review RFPs for lighting elements along DeMers. Nine proposals were narrowed to 4 which will now move to prototypes to be completed this summer.
- c. Strategic Planning meeting – we need to postpone due to our current workload.

7. Coordinator Report – Susan Caraher

- a. FY19 reimbursement request and donated labor forms (10/31/19 – 12/31/19)
- b. Mid-century schools: SHPO has requested that the nomination be reformatted onto different NP forms before the final can be submitted to the Keeper.

- c. App update: Commissioner Flemmer and the coordinator met with Ad Monkeys and our app developer to discuss some technical issues and come up with a plan to incorporate some Sanborn Maps and the timing for a release of the next phase in the late Spring/early Summer. We will choose 4 different years and select about 4-6 key elements to highlight for each (eg: Central High School, commercial district etc). GFHPC will need to provide those paragraphs to Joe Greenwood for addition to the map.
8. Other Business
- a. Glens Motor Coach Tours – Sept 12 visit to Grand Forks

 - b. Connect with the Community Foundation to explore possibilities.

 - c. Commissioner Iseminger is kicking off the Entertaining History series at the Myra Museum on Sunday, January 19 at 2pm.

Motion to adjourn Munski, seconded Swisher at 8:19 pm